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AV7 Burusho

1: Lorimer, Emily Overend. The Burusho of Hunza. Antiquity, Vol. XII, pp. 5-15. Gloucester: John Bellows, Ltd., 1938.

4 plates

Yale: B50.An86.v.12

[This short article by the wife of the British Political Agent in Gilgit for the years 1920-24 discusses very briefly the life of the Burusho of Hunza. The emphasis is on agricultural methods, crops, and the problem of an adequate food supply, but mention is made also of their buildings, tools, water channels, and utensils. --Analyst.]

Field dates: 1920-24;1934-35
Analyst: Alice McCloskey

Evaluation: Traveller-3
Processed in 1955

2: Lorimer, Emily Overend. Language Hunting in the Karakoram. London: George Allen and Unwin, Ltd., 1939.

Pp. 310;23 plates; 1 folding end map.

Yale: Eefa. 934L

/This is a popularly written account of the return trip of the Lorimers to Hunza in 1934, and of their life with the Burusho for the following fourteen months. The daily activities of the Burusho throughout this time are recorded, and data on their houses, land, marriage customs, harvest festivals, crafts, and care of children are given. --Analyst./

Field date: 1920-24;1934-35
Analyst: Alice McCloskey

Evaluation: Traveller-3
Processed in 1955

3: Lorimer, David Lockhart Robertson. The Burushaski Language. 3 vols. Vol. 1 Introduction and Grammar, Preface by G. Morgenstierne. Instituttet for Sammenlignende Kulturforskning, Serie B: Skrifter, XXIX, 1. Oslo: H. Aschehoug and Co. (W. Nygaard), 1935.

Pp. lxiii, 464; 10 unpaginated plates; 1 end map.

[Pages processed for the files: lxiii (Preface and Introduction); 10 plates, 1 map.]

Yale: Fyn50. B952. L89. v. 1

[Lt. Col. Lorimer was the British Political Agent in Gilgit for the years 1920-24. During this time he collected much information relevant to the Burushaski language, and in 1934 he returned to the area, remained for a year to complete his three volume work on the Burushaski vocabulary and grammar, and also collected some information of an ethnographic nature. Of this volume, only the Preface by Morgenstierne and the Introduction have been processed for the file. In the Preface the relationship between Burushaski and other languages is discussed; the Introduction presents a short account of the land and the people. --Analyst]

Field dates: 1920-24; 1934-35 Evaluation: Linguist-3

Analyst: Alice McCloskey Processed in 1955

4: Lorimer, David Lockhart Robertson. The Burushaski Language. 3 vols. Vol. 2 Texts and Translations. Instituttet for Sammenlignende Kulturforskning, Serie B: Skrifter, XXIX, 2. Oslo: H. Aschehoug and Co. (W. Nygaard), 1935.

Pp. vii, 418; preface; 1 end plate.

Yale: Fyn50. B592. L89. v. 2

[Lt. Col. Lorimer collected data on the Burushaski language while he was British Political Agent in Gilgit from 1920 to 1924. He returned to the area in 1934 to complete his three volume work, of which this is the second. Of primary interest for linguistic study, this volume contains several folk tales and legends, some of foreign origin; examples of verse and proverbs; local traditional history; and brief information about local customs regarding marriages, funerals, seasonal celebrations, gold washing and water regulation. The page of corrigenda following the text has been paginated 419. --Analyst]

Field dates: 1920-24; 1934-35
Analyst: George R. Bedell

Evaluation: Linguist-3
Processed in 1955

5: Lorimer, David Lockhart Robertson. The Burushaski Language, 3 vols. Vol. 3 Vocabularies and Index. Instituttet for Sammenlignende Kulturforskning, Serie B: Skrifter, XXIX, 3. Oslo: H. Aschehoug & Co. (W. Nygaard), 1938.

Pp. xvi, 547, preface, table of contents, corrigenda et addenda.

Yale: Fyn50. B952. L89. v. 3

/Lt. Col. Lorimer collected data on the Burushaski language while he was British Political Agent in Gilgit from 1920 to 1924. He returned to the area in 1934 to complete his three volume work, of which this is the third. Of primary interest for linguistic study, this volume contains vocabularies of the Burushaski and Werchikwar languages translated to English, classified lists of Burushaski words having no simple translations, a list of words common to Burushaski and Balti, and an index in English. Those entries which include descriptive information or data which is not likely to be encountered elsewhere have been marked for their content. Pages of two columns have been printed in two parts and paginated "a" and "b."--Analyst./

Field dates: 1920-24; 1934-35
Analyst: George R. Bedell

Evaluation: Linguist-3
Processed in 1956

6: O'Leary, Timothy J. Burusho Cultural Summary. Unpublished manuscript. New Haven: Human Relations Area Files, 1965.

Pp. 13 (typescript)

HRAF copy

/This source is a summary of the contents of the Burusho file as of late 1964. Mr. O'Leary is a professional anthropologist and chief analyst of HRAF. -- Analyst/

Field date: no date
Analyst: Timothy J. O'Leary

Evaluation: Ethnologist - 4
Processed in 1965

7: Tobe, John H. Hunza: Adventures in a Land of Paradise. Emmaus, Pennsylvania: Rodale Books, Inc., 1960.

Pp. viii; 15 plates; end paper map; index.

Yale: DS485 H8 T63. DLC: DS485. H8T6. DLC card no: 60-S1809

Processed for the Files: pp. 236-397, 405-451, 457-461, 465-471, 480-496, and 610-638.

[During his short visit in Hunza Valley the author, an organic gardener, tried to detect factors relating to the longevity and good health of the people of this region. As a result this book contains useful data about the local flora, agriculture, diet, physical practices, and state of health of the people of the Hunza Valley. Data about their social and cultural life are rather limited.]

Field date: 1959
Analyst: Sigrid Khera

Evaluation: Agriculturalist, traveler - 3
Processed in 1967

8: Clark, John. Hunza in the Himalayas: Storied Shangri-La Undergoes Scrutiny. Natural History, Vol. 72, No. 8, pp. 38-45. New York: The American Museum of Natural History, 1963.

HRAF copy

[The author attempts to correct in this source certain misconceived ideas held by many people regarding the small, mountainous, Central Asiatic kingdom of Hunza as a Shangri-La or virtual Himalayan paradise peopled by men and women of extraordinary health and longevity (reaching the ages of 120 to 140 years). Using these erroneous assumptions as a starting point the author proceeds to list the many cases of disease which he encountered while maintaining a general dispensary in the area, and the dietary deficiencies in the native foods which contributed immeasurably to the development of such diseases. Upon investigating alleged cases of longevity the author found that usually the individual was simply estimating his age. Later investigations based on the rate of dental wear indicated that such elderly Hunzas were in reality no older than sixty to seventy-five years of age.

Other data to be found in the source pertain to the political organization of the kingdom, the status of women, weddings and the Tumushuling celebration, population emigration, and soils, agriculture and land use.

The author, Director of the Central Asiatic Research Foundation, visited Hunza twice between 1948-1951, with the primary purpose of discovering what resources were available to the Hunzas and to teach the people to use them to the best advantage.]

Field date: 1948-1951
Analyst: John Beierle

Evaluation: Natural, Physical Scientist-5
Processed in 1966-1967